Metro won't publish on Good Friday. Look for us again Monday.

RUNNING WITH A NEW J.CREW

FASHION BRAND'S HIP EXECUTIVE SHARES THE SECRETS OF HER OFF-BEAT, HIGH-LOW SUCCESS PAGE 18

REGIONAL metro®

Weekend, April 5-8, 2012

News worth sharing.

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WHAT'S UP WITH THE WEATHER?

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 4

Enjoy the unseasonably warm weather while you can, like these students playing a little football at U of R, because the Easter Bunny may need a pair of snowshoes this weekend. Environment Canada is forecasting snow, so get those mittens and parkas back out of the closet. NATASHA TERSIGNI/FOR METRO

Power delivers sticker shock

SaskPower. Despite record profit, expect electricity rates to rise

ALEX BOUTILIER
alex.boutilier@metronews.ca

The good news is your power bill won't increase this year.

The not-so-good news is that it likely will next January.

SaskPower delivered its annual report for 2011 at the legislature on Wednesday. In it, the utility reported record operating earnings for the year to the tune of $239 million, as well as $625 million invested in infrastructure — the second-highest capital expenditure in SaskPower's history.

It's those kind of expenditures — billed as necessary to upgrade Saskatchewan's aging energy infrastructure — that will likely drive up power rates in 2013.

"It does look like we'll be applying for a rate increase, (but) we don't know how much yet," SaskPower CEO Robert Watson told reporters.

"This year, for (2012), we saw that we were going to have a record profit, quite frankly, and for that very reason we decided it would not be advantageous to go out and ask for a rate increase for (2012)."

The province's rate review panel has asked SaskPower to provide an application by mid-summer. Any rate increase would likely come into effect on Jan. 1, according to Watson. While Watson said he doesn't have a sense of the magnitude, he expects a hike in the single-digit range.

That news comes as Saskatchewan and the federal government continue consultations on new regulations for greenhouse gas emissions — talks which could affect the province's three coal-fired power plants.

Rob Norris, the minister responsible for SaskPower, said those negotiations have been positive.

Robert Watson, CEO of SaskPower, left, along with Minister Rob Norris and SaskPower CFO Sandeep Kalra, field questions from the media at the Saskatchewan legislature Wednesday. The utility raked in record profits in 2011, according to their annual report. ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Dividend paid

$120M

Dividend paid by SaskPower to the provincial government in 2011. It's the first dividend SaskPower has paid to the government since 2008.

It's a crime, but not online

The Regina police force says few citizens are using their new online system to report minor crimes

PAGE 3

Rae slams PM over jet fiasco

Interim Liberal leader calls for Harper's resignation after scathing auditor general's report on the controversy

PAGE 6

Going bump in the night

"This is one where you laugh as much as you scream," filmmaker says of his new thriller, Cabin in the Woods

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NEWS

On the web

Flying car closer to reality

A Terrafugia Inc. prototype flying car has completed its first flight, bringing the company closer to its goal of selling the airborne vehicles within the year. Watch the car-plane in action at metronews.ca

Keeping you safe online

A made-in-Canada solution to safe surfing gives peace of mind to public Wi-Fi users. For the full story see metronews.ca

Mobile news

Sparks fly on Twitter between Ben Mulroney and a former chief of staff to his father after Norman Spector muses about whether Mulroney's Progressive Conservatives and Jean Chrétien's Liberals cut a quiet deal. Scan for the story.

Habitat for Humanity lends a hand to lucky family

Shawn Karnitsky from Home Depot hands over the keys to a brand new home to Maria Vaquerano and her daughter, Elena, on Wednesday. It was an emotional ceremony, attended by volunteers, Habitat staff, MLA Russ Marchuk, Coun. Wade Murray and Habitat for Humanity board members.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY REGINA/CONTRIBUTED

Online crime reporting slow to catch on: Police

RPS. System was launched in November 2011

ALEX BOUTILIER
alex.boutilier@metronews.ca

Regina Police Services has seen little uptake in its new online crime-reporting system. But Elizabeth Popowich, police public-information manager, said the force knew from the start it would take some time to popularize the service with citizens.

Quoted

"I think any use of (the online reporting system) demonstrates that it's working. ... This, we hope, is just simply more convenient."

Elizabeth Popowich, police public-information manager

Police have received about 85 reports from the online service so far in 2012.

"Which, when you consider that our police service probably takes in an excess of 60,000 reports in a year, that's a very small fraction," Popowich said. "But it was never intended to replace something, only to augment the service. And so we think that, with time, it will catch on a little more."

Regina police launched the online-reporting system in November 2011. It allows citizens to file a police report — mostly for minor incidents such as property damage or petty theft — from the comfort of their own home, rather than trudging down to the station. Convenience, as well as the success of similar systems in other jurisdictions, was the impetus behind the service.

"Sometimes people would prefer to have an option that doesn't require coming into the police station and wait to be able to file a report and make a statement," said Popowich.

But online reporting is not suitable for all types of crime. Popowich said more serious incidents, such as assaults, still require victims or witnesses to give a statement in person. And, of course, any crime in progress should be reported through 911.

Health

B.C. nurses join provincial fight against HIV

Veteran HIV nurses from Providence Health Care (PHC) in Vancouver are working with nurses in Saskatchewan to help them deal with the province's high rate of HIV incidences.

Scott Harrison, program director for urban health and HIV with PHC, said B.C.'s Stop HIV program has been using new techniques to stop the spread of the disease and now they want to bring that knowledge to Saskatchewan.

Harrison also said the Saskatchewan government should review the way it deals with the disease, "finding a balance between harm reduction and enforcement of existing laws."

"People do use drugs and using the criminal law alone doesn't change the fact people use drugs. It's about accepting that they're going to use and helping them use in the safest way possible."

MORGAN MODJESKI/ METRO IN SASKATOON

Fined

Tour guide busted for wasting game

A Prince Albert guide and outfitter has been tagged with $4,500 in penalties after being convicted of wasting game by a provincial court judge.

This follows a Ministry of Environment investigation launched in September after almost three-dozen complete duck and geese carcasses were discovered in the brush, north of Saskatoon.

"Wasting game shows disrespect for the natural resources," Ken Aube, compliance and enforcement director for the MoE, said in a release Wednesday following the verdict for RJM Guiding and Outfitting Inc. **METRO**

CBC. Saskatoon radio expansion pushed back

CBC will find some "cash-flow" savings by delaying the launch of expanded radio service to Saskatoon until June 2013.

The news came Wednesday as the public broadcaster announced a 10 per cent cut in federal funding will leave CBC and Radio Canada with a shortfall of $200 million, plus $25 million in severance costs from the loss of 650 jobs.

CBC had announced plans to expand local radio service in Saskatoon, including the launch of a local morning show.

"We've made a commitment to Saskatoon and we will be delivering on that commitment, unfortunately, a few months later than we had anticipated," said Kirstine Stewart, executive vice-president of English services.

CBC is also halting analogue over-the-air TV service on July 31, shutting down a transmitter in Saskatoon earlier than planned.

JESSICA SMITH/METRO

Tyler Leeder RCMP/CONTRIBUTED

Crime. Suspect nabbed following standoff

A man wanted for a string of bank robberies and other crimes across the Prairies has surrendered to a heavily armed RCMP tactical team in west-central Alberta.

Tyler Leeder, 26, was wanted for armed robberies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and is accused of injuring an Alberta Mountie when a police car was rammed by a truck.

Leeder was surrounded in a Rocky Mountain House hotel and gave himself up early Wednesday without incident. RCMP requested an armoured car, helicopter and dog teams in making the arrest.

Leeder is to be returned to prison on a parole violation and is to appear in court some time in the future on robbery and other charges.

A missing 17-year-old girl who was thought to be travelling with Leeder also gave herself up to police.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Income surplus. Money continues to flow in for Crown Corp. SaskWater

ALEX BOUTILIER
Metro in Regina

Dustin Duncan HANDOUT

The Crown Corporation responsible for water and wastewater services is reporting their fourth surplus since 2002.

SaskWater tabled its 2011 annual report at the Saskatchewan legislature on Wednesday. The utility reported a net income of $3.5 million, only the fourth surplus since being reclaimed as a commercial Crown in 2002.

"SaskWater has made significant financial strides over the past few years," said Dustin Duncan, the minister responsible for SaskWater, in a release. "The corporation's financial success is critical in order to support our growing province with infrastructure refurbishments and system expansions."

The utility spent a total of $31.3 million in capital investments last year, and supplied 34.1 billion litres of water — including treated and untreated.

Rate increase

- **Year 1.** SaskWater is in Year One of a planned three-year rate increase.
- **Percentage.** In January, the utility announced potable water rates will increase by between seven and nine per cent a year for three years.
- **Cost of service.** Non-potable water customers — mostly industrial and commercial companies — will see rates increase based on the cost of the service in their area, in the range of three to 24 per cent.
- **Service area.** The utility serves 59 communities in the province, including 81 rural pipelines and seven rural municipalities.

Tartan and bagpipes to mark independence

The Sons of Scotland perform at the Saskatchewan legislature on Wednesday, to celebrate Scotland's Tartan Day on April 6. Tartan Day marks the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath, which declared Scotland independent in 1320. ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO

Skin cancer

Cancer society wants tanning bed ban for minors

The Canadian Cancer Society says it's time for the Saskatchewan government to restrict the use of indoor tanning beds for people under the age of 18.

The society says it's concerned about the rise in skin cancer among young people. Spokeswoman Donna Pasiechnik says studies have shown that tanning before the age of 35 increases the risk of melanoma by 75 per cent. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Chairman says

Pick up pace for cancer treatment?

The chairman of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency says people are being treated for the disease more quickly, but more needs to be done.

Dr. Stewart McMillan says there will be more workload as the population ages, noting that 42 per cent of new cancer cases involve people over age 70. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Goodbye, fair weather: Cold front rushing in

Temperatures drop. Long weekend forecast calls for flurries

NATASHA TERSIGNI
For Metro

The Easter Bunny may need a pair of snowshoes this weekend.

Despite the above-seasonal weather that has graced Regina of late, this weekend Environment Canada is forecasting snow.

Showers, with a low of plus 5 and a high of 11, are expected for Good Friday. Unfortunately, that is the warm part of the weekend. On Saturday, brace yourself for a high of zero with snow and gusting winds. Yes, time to get those mitts and parkas back out of storage.

Sunday, plan for it to be cloudy with a 60 per cent chance of flurries, blustery winds, with a low of -4 and a high of 1.

Much of Western Canada is in the same weather situation, with snow being called for in Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon and some parts of Manitoba.

Golfers who were planning on dusting off their clubs this weekend should start making other plans.

Although many of Regina's golf courses opened last weekend, the earliest date that golf courses have opened in recent history, Josh Oberik, the assistant pro at Murray's Golf Course, said the cold weather ahead means they will probably be closed for the weekend.

Career fair. Adults with disabilities feel left behind in the workforce

Many people have difficulty getting their first job. Gabrielle Roberts-Winter, who uses a wheelchair, has other barriers to face.

"My issues are just getting the initial work experience and just getting past the interview process. I have had a lot of interviews and almost getting hired, but I just don't get passed there," said Roberts-Winter. "I feel sometimes when employers see me they just see the chair and the barrier. They don't really think past that to how do we problem solve, how to do we make the workplace accessible and how they can utilize the skills that I do have and work around some of the impairments that I have."

The Neil Squire Society held their third annual career fair for people with disabilities at the University of Regina on Tuesday. The career fair is aimed at matching up employers who are ready to accommodate someone who is physically challenged.

Nikki Langdon, regional manager for the Neil Squire Society, said that last year more than 300 people came and, as a result of the fair, 20 to 30 per cent of the attendees found a job.

Although many employers are apprehensive about hiring someone with a physical impairment, Langdon said they shouldn't be.

"Anyone who works with people of disabilities is going to help with accommodations. Sometimes it is so small and so simple and cost-effective that it really doesn't take much."

The career fair matches employees with a physical impairment to an employer who is ready to accommodate. NATASHA TERSIGNI/FOR METRO

Langdon said that if an employer has any questions about accommodations they should contact an organization that works with people with disabilities, such as the Neil Squire Society, South Saskatchewan Independent Living, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Society, or CNIB.

"If anyone can manage their disability or impairment, it's them. They're used to it, they know how to manage whatever is going on in their life. So they will be able to manage it in the workforce the same way they are able to manage it in their life," said Langdon.

NATASHA TERSIGNI/FOR METRO

Five Finger Death Punch checks in with Soulfly, Windowpane and Persist, Saturday at the Brandt Centre. HANDOUT

Plenty of reasons to come out and play this weekend

Despite the cold weather that's storming in, there is still lots to do this weekend. So put down your chocolate bunnies, zip up your coats and head out to one of the many great happenings in town.

Family Events

Dino-Egg-Stravanagaza
Dyeing Dino Eggs, Mystery Dino Clue, Hunt, Egg-cellent Games, Dino Egg Scramble, Dino Storytime, and a feature film, HOP!
Date: Saturday, April 7
Location: Royal Saskatchewan Museum
Cost: Members: $10/child, $5/adult; Non-members: $12/child, $7/adults

Easter at Southland Mall
Get your picture taken with the Easter bunny, make some crafts, and don't forget the treats.
Date: Saturday, April 7
Location: Southland Mall
Cost: Free, with picture donations being accepted for charity

Family Studio Sundays
Create your own personal symbols through paper mask-making, inspired by 13 Coyotes: Edward Poitras.
Date: Sunday, April 8
Time: Programs from 2-4 p.m.; Family Focus tour begins at 3 p.m.
Location: MacKenzie Art Gallery
Cost: Free

Comedy

Best of the Winnipeg Comedy Festival
The Best of the Winnipeg Comedy Festival presents Sean Cullen, Al Rae, Big Daddy Tazz, Sherri Sutton and more.
Date: April 7
Location: Casino Regina
Cost: Tickets $30 to $35

The Comedy Grind
Gabbos presents live standup comedy at The Comedy Grind every Saturday night
Date: April 7
Location: Gabbos Nightclub
Cost: $5

Big Daddy Tazz along with other comedians will be at Casino Regina this weekend. HANDOUT

Music

Friday Night

Venue: The Pump Roadhouse
Band: Wildfire

Venue: Wonderland
Band: McNally's Tavern

Saturday Night

Venue: Brandt Centre, Evraz Place
Band: Five Finger Death Punch with Soulfly, Windowpane and Persist

Venue: The Club
Band: Oh My Darling

Venue: Wildfire
Band: The Pump Roadhouse

Venue: Wonderland
Band: McNally's Tavern

Art

MacKenzie Art Gallery
Join a gallery facilitator for a guided tour of the exhibition 13 Coyotes: Edward Poitras.
Date: April 7
Location: MacKenzie Art Gallery

Critical Faculties
Exhibition of work by University of Regina and First Nations University of Canada Fine Arts faculty members.
Date: Now until April 13
Location: First Nations University Gallery
Cost: Free

NATASHA TERSIGNI/FOR METRO

Contentious issue. Wildrose would set up special court over conscience rights if elected: Smith

Alberta Wildrose party leader Danielle Smith
IAN JACKSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wildrose leader Danielle Smith won't say where she stands on the controversial issue of conscience rights, but says her party would set up a court system to handle complaints.

Conscience rights were a heated issue in Saskatchewan last year, when its high court ruled that a marriage commissioner did not have the right to opt out of marrying gays for religious reasons.

Smith says her party believes that when conscience rights come into conflict with other rights, they need to be resolved by judges and lawyers examining evidence.

Conscience rights include allowing physicians and marriage commissioners to opt out of performing work they are morally opposed to, such as performing abortions or marrying same-sex couples.

Smith says if her party wins power in the April 23 election, she will set up a separate division of the provincial court to resolve complaints from people denied service on those grounds.

Smith was asked twice by reporters what her personal beliefs are, but declined to answer, saying only that she takes her "marching orders" from her party and from Albertans. THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING PRESENTED BY SCOTIABANK

HOW CAN A CREDIT CARD EARN YOU A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE?

SALLY AND CALEB ARE EMPTY NESTERS — AND THEY ARE LOVING IT!

In their early 50s, they both have government jobs with a combined annual household income of $150,000. While they are still supporting their son who is in his last year of university in London, Ont., that's the only large expense they have. Their retirement savings are on track, their house in midtown Toronto is paid for and so are both of their cars.

The financial freedom means they're travelling much more than before. "And, we especially love our weekends away," says Sally.

The couple just booked another special getaway that will include an event in the Visa Infinite Dining Series. Their *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card provides exclusive access to a range of cultural activities and wine and dine events.

"This time we're going to the Langdon Hall Country House Hotel and Spa in Cambridge, Ont., for a country culinary escape! It's really a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," says Sally. The couple will join other cardholders and award-winning Chef Jonathan Gushue for an extraordinary sit-down meal.

The *Scotia Momentum* VISA Infinite card is the only reward card the couple uses these days. "We like getting cash back on the cash we spend," says Caleb. The couple use the card to pay for about $36,000 worth of purchases a year.

The *Scotia Momentum* VISA Infinite card provides 4 per cent cash back on gas and groceries, 2 per cent cash back on drugstore items and recurring bill payments, and 1 per cent cash back on all other eligible purchases. While there is an annual fee of $99, the payback is more than worth it, says Caleb.

Last year they got back $744. "And we had so many special occasions away," says Sally.

Scotia Momentum® Cash Back Calculator

Sally and Caleb's profile:

Sally and Caleb use their *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card to pay for about $3000 worth of purchases a month. Remember that some fixed costs are not payable by credit card and therefore not included in these calculations.

	$0 — 1,000 — 2,000	
Grocery Store		$ 400
Gas Station		$ 500
Drug Store		$ 300
Recurring Bills		$ 200
Other		$ 1,600
	Total Monthly	**$ 3,000**

Sally and Caleb's Estimated Annual *Scotia Momentum*® Cash Back

Sally and Caleb have a *Scotia Momentum*® VISA Infinite* card. Here's a look at the cash back their purchases add up to.

Scotia Momentum® VISA Infinite*

4%	$ 432	
2%	$ 120	
1%	$ 192	

Total Cash Back $744

Visit scotiabank.com/momentumcashback to fill in your monthly purchases and see how your cash back can add up!

Richness is:
FOUND MONEY.
MOMENTUM
VISA
Get up to 4% cash back with the Scotia Momentum® VISA Infinite* card1.
You define richness. With a credit card that gives you up to 4% cash back on everyday purchases, we can help with the money part.
You're richer than you think:
Scotiabank®
Learn more at scotiabank.com/momentum
1 You will earn 4% cash back on the first $25,000 you spend annually at VISA merchants classified in the VISA network as Grocery Stores & Supermarkets, Service Stations (with or without ancillary services) and Automated Fuel Dispensers (Merchant Codes: 5411, 5541, & 5542). You will earn 2% cash back on the first $25,000 you spend annually at VISA merchants classified as Drug Stores & Pharmacies (Merchant Code: 5912) and Recurring Payments. These added benefits will not apply to merchants located on the premises of these merchants but who are classified by VISA in another manner. Recurring payments are defined as payments made on a monthly or regular basis automatically billed by a merchant. Not all merchants offer recurring payments. You will earn 1% cash back on purchases made after you have reached the 4% $25,000 annual spend maximum and/or the 2% $25,000 annual spend maximum and on all other purchases made with the card. Cash back is not awarded for cash advances, Scotia® VISA cheques, credit vouchers, payments, purchase returns, card fees, interest charges or service/transaction charges.
All Scotia Momentum® VISA Infinite* cards have Visa payWave. Visa payWave™ is a Trademark of Visa Int. S.A.C. * Visa Int. S.A.C. user The Bank of Nova Scotia
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Job loss. Defence funding takes a hit in the budget

The axe is beginning to fall on jobs across the public service, with the Defence Department among the first to report losses.

The losses will be felt across the country, from military bases to reserve sites.

Union president John MacLennan says everything from research and development to food services is on the chopping block. But the government has also committed to keeping the regular and reserve fighting force intact.

"If the government is not going to cut the size of the military or close any bases, who is going to do all the work?" MacLennan asked.

Around 19,200 civil servants will lose their jobs over the next three years as a result of the budget, but unions say the cuts to the public service actually go much deeper.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Losses

The Defence Department took a hit in last week's budget, as they need to cut $1.1 billion over three years

- **Cuts.** The Union of National Defence Employees says roughly 1,100 civilian positions are being eliminated
- **Still reeling.** Public Service Alliance of Canada says 9,700 positions were lost as a result of a budget freeze in 2010

Rafferty trial

Police say luck, hunch led to body

It was possibly the most exhaustive missing-person search in Canadian history, but police found where Victoria Stafford, snatched outside her elementary school one spring afternoon, had been buried, court heard Wednesday.

Officers went to remarkable lengths to find eight-year-old Tori, logging more than 18,000 kilometres in their search for clues and the girl herself.

"Literally, we went 1 1/2 times around the moon," Sgt. John Stirling, co-ordinator for the Ontario Provincial Police's search-and-rescue operations, testified. Stirling told the trial of Michael Rafferty — who has denied kidnapping, sexually assaulting and killing the Grade 3 student — about search on foot, in cruisers and on ATV's and even underwater.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rae calls for PM's resignation after stealth-fighter fiasco

All-out attack. Interim Liberal leader slams Harper after scathing auditor general report concludes manipulation

Liberal interim leader Bob Rae speaks to supporters and the media in response to the 2012 federal budget in Toronto, Saturday.
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bob Rae is laying the blame for the stealth-fighter controversy squarely on Stephen Harper — and he's demanding the prime minister's resignation.

The interim Liberal leader says Harper "lied" to Canadians during last May's election about having contractual protection against skyrocketing costs for the F-35 jets.

And he says Harper deliberately misled Parliament as well.

Rae's all-out attack on Harper follows a scathing report by auditor general Michael Ferguson, who concluded that the National Defence Department manipulated the process, low-balled cost estimates and kept Parliament in the dark to ensure it got the fighter jets it wanted.

Rae says it's simply not credible for Harper, a reputed control freak who micromanages every aspect of his government, to claim he was unaware of the problems.

He notes that the Congressional Budget Office in the U.S. and Canada's parliamentary budget officer, Kevin Page, pegged the costs at billions more than the $9 billion touted by the Harper government.

"He cannot now pretend that he was just the piano player in the brothel who didn't have a clue as to what was really going on upstairs."

While he expects a public servant or maybe even a cabinet minister or two might get "thrown under a bus," Rae said: "A massive fraud of this kind can't be ascribed to anyone other than the prime minister of Canada.

"This is Stephen Harper's baby. ... That's why we say and I say without hesitation, Stephen Harper is not fit to be the prime minister of Canada."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec protest

Tuition hikes nearly cause riot

Montreal police arrested dozens of student protesters Wednesday morning after a group of demonstrators stormed the city's upscale Queen Elizabeth Hotel and a downtown shopping mall.

Police say they were called to the hotel after demonstrators started flipping tables and smashing dishes inside the building where John Lennon and Yoko Ono staged their famous bed-in for peace.

Quebec students have been holding regular demonstrations across the province for weeks to voice their opposition to the government's plan to hike tuition fees.

Montreal police dispersed today's crowd at the hotel — but they say some demonstrators headed straight for the nearby Centre Eaton shopping mall.

Police say officers pursued the protesters through the mall where display cases were knocked over and items were broken.

They say they eventually caught up to some of the demonstrators and made around 60 arrests.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miss Universe. Woman born a male may have started a trend: Trump

A Canadian woman barred from the Miss Universe pageant because she was born a male has been given the thumbs up to participate in the contest.

And there's a suggestion that her case might allow others like her to take part in the future.

Donald Trump, who runs the Miss Universe Organization, has confirmed that Jenna Talackova can compete to represent her country in the pageant and he wished her luck in her quest for the crown.

Talackova, from Vancouver, had said she was devastated when she was originally told she'd be excluded for not being a "natural born woman."

Trump told ABC's Good Morning America Wednesday that Talackova's case may open up the contest to other transgendered hopefuls.

"Probably, we'll have to open it up from that standpoint," he said.

Trump added that his pageant had followed the appropriate Canadian and U.S. laws in deciding the matter.

Jenna Talackova's passport, birth certificate and drivers licence say she's a woman, her lawyer says. REED SAXON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The laws are very clear. So, based on that about two days ago, we decided to let her compete and we hope she does well," he said.

Talackova had gender-reassignment surgery when she was 19.

She says she knew as young as four that she was a female.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Welcome to the island of goddesses

An artist performs during the unveiling of Cirque du soleil's new show, Amaluna, in Montreal on Wednesday. Amaluna invites the audience to a mysterious island governed by goddesses and guided by the cycles of the moon. And, oh yes, there's a poignant love story involved. The show opens in Montreal on April 19 and travels later to Quebec City, Toronto and Vancouver. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twisters cut swath of fear

A dozen tornadoes. 650 homes damaged, 500 flights grounded in shocking start to Texas storm season

About 500 flights were grounded Wednesday at one of the busiest U.S. airports after as many as a dozen tornadoes tore through northern Texas.

Thousands were left without power and hundreds of homes were pummelled.

The Red Cross estimated that 650 homes were damaged.

Hundreds of flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Dallas Love Field were cancelled or diverted to other destinations.

In one industrial section of Dallas, rows of empty tractor-trailers, crumpled up like soda cans, littered a parking lot.

In Lancaster, television helicopters panned over exposed homes without roofs and flattened buildings.

Utility officials said nearly 14,000 homes and businesses, mainly in the Arlington area, still had no electricity early Wednesday.

In Arlington, a tornado hurtled toward a nursing home.

Physical therapist Patti Gilroy said she saw the swirling mass barrelling down through the back door, after herding patients into the hallway in the order trained: walkers, wheelchairs, then beds.

"It sounded like a bomb hit," Gilroy added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A tornado's legacy: Overturned cars litter streets in Lancaster, Texas, on Wednesday. ROBERT RAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Climate. Spikes in CO_2 thawed ice age and may be a menace today: Study

The dramatic temperature increases that thawed the last ice age followed spikes in carbon dioxide levels in the air, a new study finds.

Researchers say that further strengthens the scientific case explaining current man-made global warming.

In the new study, scientists show the atmospheric concentration of that heat-trapping greenhouse gas jumped more than 40 per cent.

Then global temperatures went up about 6 F (3.5 C).

A study published Wednesday in the journal Nature estimated global temperatures using ice and mud samples from dozens of places around the world and found that globally, temperatures clearly went up only after carbon dioxide jumped.

"This, to me, seems like pretty powerful proof … of the connection between greenhouse gases and global warming," said study lead author Jeremy Shankun of Harvard University.

There are two main sources of carbon dioxide, the chief greenhouse gas.

The natural source comes mostly from dead plants and animals and that amplified the ice age thaw.

Today, emissions from burning coal, oil and other fossil fuels add greatly to natural carbon dioxide.

The ice sheet in the last ice age was actually so large that it was unstable, said study co-author Peter Clark of Oregon State University.

The initial trigger to the melt: A small and predictable wobble in Earth's orbit around the sun.

That tiny wobble meant a tilt toward the sun that brought more sunlight in the Northern Hemisphere.

This increase of sunshine caused the ice sheets to melt and sent whopping levels of fresh water into the oceans of the world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The evidence?

6,000

Carbon dioxide levels have jumped roughly the same amount in the last century as they did over 6,000 years to get out of the ice age, said study lead author Jeremy Shankun.

Spring storms

Ship hits rocks as Britain shivers

Seven crew members were rescued from a cargo ship that ran aground during gales near Colwyn Bay, north Wales.

Meanwhile, thousands of people were without electricity Wednesday as snow and heavy winds lashed many parts of Britain. Twenty centimetres of snow fell in the north.

The Antigua-registered ship Carrier hit rocks near Colwyn Bay. Two rescue helicopters lifted the seven Polish crew members to safety. Experts were trying Wednesday to refloat the 82-metre vessel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring storms

Typhoon-like winds kill four

A powerful storm with typhoon-strength winds and heavy rain halted planes and trains in Tokyo and killed four people around the country.

Winds of more than 144 kilometres an hour were recorded as the storm swept across Japan's main island of Honshu.

Police reported the four deaths: two people killed in warehouse collapses, an elderly man who fell off a roof and a woman crushed by a falling tree. Hundreds more were injured.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Suicide bomber targets Somalia's prime minister

Terrorism. Theatre bombing kills 10 people, wounds dozens more

Two weeks ago, Somalia's National Theater reopened for the first time in 20 years for a concert that drew an audience in festive colours in a city trying to rise above war. A welcoming banner proclaimed: "The country is being rebuilt."

On Wednesday, the theatre was turned into a scene of screams, chaos and blood when a suicide bomber attacked another high-profile event, killing 10 people, wounding dozens and shattering a tentative peace in the capital, Mogadishu.

The blast occurred as Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali stood at the podium to deliver a speech.

Near miss

Charge d'affaires Omar Jamal said the bombing was an attempt to assassinate Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali.

- The prime minister was sitting among a group of officials, and the suicide bomber was in an adjacent row, trying to figure out which one was her target, when Ali got up and went on stage to speak.

He was unharmed, said government spokesman Abdirahman Omar Osman, but the president of Somalia's Olympic committee and the head of its soccer federation were among the dead.

The government said a female suicide bomber carried out the attack. The Islamist militant group al-Shabab used its official Twitter feed to claim responsibility for the bombing.

The al-Qaida-linked organization said explosives had been planted in the theatre before the event, but an Associated Press journalist at the scene said there was no large blast crater, making a suicide bombing more likely.

"It was a cowardly act and that will not deter the government from performing its national duties," Osman said.

Wednesday's ceremony was part of that rebirth of entertainment, celebrating the first anniversary of the start of a national TV station.

"The blast happened as musicians were singing and spectators were clapping for them," said Salah Jimale, who attended, and received only scratches from the bombing. "Huge smoke made the whole scene go dark."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hunger strike turns to riot

A riot policeman runs past fires caused by petrol bombs thrown by Bahraini anti-government protesters Wednesday in Sanabis, Bahrain, during clashes that erupted when police dispersed a march in support of an imprisoned human rights activist who has been on a hunger strike for more than 50 days. HASAN JAMALI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suicide bomber

Ten killed in Afghan bombing

A suicide bomber on a motorcycle killed at least 10 people, including three American soldiers, at a park in a relatively peaceful area of northern Afghanistan on Wednesday.

The Taliban, which claimed responsibility for the attack, are targeting Afghan and NATO security forces as they fight to assert their power and undermine U.S. efforts to try to build up the Afghan military, who will take the lead in combat responsibility over the next couple of years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Problematic poetry

Nobel laureate calls Israel threat

German Nobel literature laureate Guenter Grass labelled Israel a threat to "already fragile world peace" in a poem published Wednesday. The poem criticized what he described as Western hypocrisy over Israel's own suspected nuclear program.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hi Regina.
We're new here, and not above buying friends.

Finance fracas

Carney dismisses bankers' concern

Mark Carney is firing back at Canadian bankers for requesting a pause on global financial reforms aimed at averting a repeat of the 2008 global crisis.

The Bank of Canada governor said in an interview with The Canadian Press that reforms should continue until the structural changes needed to eliminate irresponsible risk-taking are completed.

And he dismissed concerns voiced by Canadians Bankers Association head Terry Campbell who cited "unintended consequences" Tuesday when he said no one knows what impact the comprehensive reforms would have on the system.

Carney, who has fought resistance to reforms from the U.S. banking community, appeared to have no patience with even mild concerns from Canada's banking sector.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
100.36¢ US (-0.61¢)

TSX
12,178.66 (-144.95)

OIL
$101.47 US (-$2.54)

GOLD
$1,614.10 US (-$57.90)

Natural gas: $2.141 (-4.6¢)
Dow Jones: 13,074.75 (-124.8)

Banking on big bonuses

National Bank CEO and president Louis Vachon attends the company's annual general meeting in Montreal on Wednesday. An activist group is calling on the bank to change the way it pays its top executives, saying the $8.4 million in salary and bonuses paid to Vachon last year was "exorbitant." GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CBC slashes jobs in wake of budget

Public broadcaster. Facing a $200-million shortfall, CBC announces major layoffs and potential advertising on radio

Fans of the CBC can expect fewer new shows on television and more ads on radio as the public broadcaster cuts hundreds of jobs in the wake of the federal budget.

News and entertainment will be hit but marquee TV and radio programs, as well as hockey broadcasts, will be protected, CBC officials said Wednesday.

The changes followed the decision by the Conservatives to axe 10 per cent of the broadcaster's budget as part of a government-wide cost-cutting effort.

Government funding makes up about 64 per cent of CBC's budget and the corporation receives about $1.15 billion a year from taxpayers.

While the Tories have had a bull's-eye on the corporation for years, CBC President Hubert Lacroix wouldn't say whether he viewed the cuts as political payback.

The public broadcaster expects to lay off more than 650 people over the next three years, with the majority let go this year.

Lacroix says the financial pressure doesn't just come from the federal government cuts. In reality, the CBC faces a $200-million shortfall, as well as $25 million in severance costs for the layoffs.

About $50 million will be made up in new revenue and the CBC has applied for permission to run ads on CBC Radio 2 and Espace musique.

But to cut costs, the CBC is making major changes across the country.

They'll sell buildings, close music libraries, move broadcasts of Radio Canada International entirely to the Internet and cut back on news, music and sports programming.

The savings will be spread between both English and French services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Automakers. Canadian vehicle sales up by 2.8 per cent in March

Canadian auto sales rose a modest 2.8 per cent in March as consumers bought more new cars than a year earlier, offsetting a slight decline in truck sales.

Automakers sold some 157,750 vehicles for the month, compared to 153,485 in March a year ago, according to data from DesRosiers Auto Consultants.

A 6.5-per cent boost in car sales more than offset a drop in truck sales of 0.3 per cent.

The Detroit Big Three automakers — Chrysler, Ford and GM — lost market share to foreign nameplates, which now make up some 55.7 per cent of the Canadian market place.

Still, Ford Canada was the top-selling automaker last month, wresting the title back from Chrysler, which had been the leading automaker in Canada for the opening two months of the year.

Ford Canada sold 24,690 vehicles in March, with particularly strong interest in the Ford Focus, Edge and Flex, but the overall volume was a decline from 25,526 in March 2011.

"There was a slight decline in March, however it was still a very strong month considering that last March we set a 12-year record," said Dianne Craig, president and CEO at Ford of Canada.

Despite a strong challenge from Ford, Chrysler Canada has just completed its best month since 2000, with March sales jumping eight per cent to 22,703 vehicles.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Online. Yahoo announces layoffs in bid to turn company around

In his first three months on the job, Yahoo CEO Scott Thompson has imposed the largest layoffs in the company's 17-year history, reshaped the board of directors, picked a potentially disruptive fight with a major shareholder and sued Facebook for patent infringement.

He says there's even more upheaval to come.

Thompson delivered a painful jolt Wednesday with a payroll purge of about 2,000 workers, or about 14 per cent of Yahoo's 14,100 employees. The cuts will save about $375 million annually as Yahoo tries to boost its earnings and long-slumping stock price.

More shakeups loom as Thompson reshuffles divisions and considers selling an online ad-placement service and other operations that don't fit into his strategy.

Once an Internet trendsetter, Yahoo has been outmanoeuvred and outsmarted by Google and Facebook in the race for online advertising. While still popular, its website has lost ground in the crowded online field.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Payroll purge

2,000

Yahoo announced Wednesday that it would be cutting 2,000 workers, or about 14 per cent of its workforce, the largest layoffs in the company's 17-year history

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Duo Propane and Charcoal Barbeque
•52,800 total BTUs •1,260 sq. in. total cooking area •Porcelain-enamelled cast-iron cooking grates •12,000 BTU side burner #5050

COMMERCIAL SERIES Char-Broil
SPECIAL VALUE!
now $478
was $548
Tank sold separately.
4-Burner Stainless Steel Barbeque
•65,500 total BTUs •680 sq. in. total cooking area •SureFire™ electronic ignition •Solid stainless steel rod cooking grates #362579
Natural Gas Conversion Kit #92925 $57.54

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now $198 was $228
22" 2-N-1 Push Mower
•Briggs & Stratton® 550e Series™ engine •140cc 5.50 ft-lbs. gross-torque •Prime 'N Pull™ •Mulch, bagging #373931

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•Cushions included with set •1-year limited warranty on fabric and frame
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WHEN DEATH KNOCKS ON YOUR DOOR — INVITE HIM IN FOR TORTILLA CHIPS

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

A new Canadian study is out that shows unhealthy eaters, drinkers, smokers and layabouts die sooner, proving for the first time in a major research paper that major research papers are useless.

My first reaction is to ask what's new here. It seems like scientists got a research grant, slacked off for a few months with Doritos and Xbox, then realized their deadline had arrived and slapped something together about unhealthy living, their orange fingertips staining the keyboard.

But that's not the main reason health studies like this are useless. No, the big reason is that clearly nobody listens to them.

The study says 60 per cent of all people die because of problems stemming from drinking, smoking and other preventable health issues. Other Canadian deaths are caused by:

- 15 per cent: Run over by a bus while playing Angry Birds.
- 15 per cent: Death by overexposure because 5 C weather in March led them to wear a T-shirt and shorts.
- 10 per cent: Rightly beaten to death for shouting, "Whoo! Party!" on the sidewalk at 4 a.m.

So, any way you look at it, we kind of get what's coming to us.

Widespread unhealthiness is why study after study comes out saying the same thing. Because though research papers may be stupid and repetitive, nothing is more stupid and repetitive than the average person.

My solution? So glad you asked. Let's admit our approach is wrong and reverse course. Completely. Let's embrace Death.

I have a cigarette-smoking friend of mine who suggests, tobacco firmly in cheek, that the government should be happy she smokes since people usually die of lung cancer so quickly.

I say she's on to something. If we're all going to be hedonistic dopes — and we are — then let's embrace our early deaths and save on health care. Given government budget problems, I'm sure politicians would be happy if we went so all-in that we moved straight past health-care spending and directly into boosting the funeral industry.

I like to imagine Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty getting frustrated as he watches those "Make Death Wait" Heart and Stroke commercials where "Death" blathers on about all the nearby people he's going to kill eventually.

"What are you, a Bond villain?" Dalton yells at the screen. "Shut up and finish the job!"

With my pragmatic approach, we can expect new provincial slogans like: "New Brunswick — The Pitcher Province"; "Yukon — Home of both types of Klondike Bar"; and "Ontario — Smoke 'em if you got 'em."

And we can save researchers and health organizations from the pain of being ignored when they could be trying Blazin' Jalapeno Doritos and learning a new move on NHL '12.

Let's not make Death wait, people. He's a busy man.

It's time to turn the tables, or strollers, and embrace our sluggish ways.
BORIS SPREMO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The newly waxed

JONATHAN HORDLE / REX FEATURES

Immortalized

Royals get (wax) seal of approval

MARYLEBONE, LONDON. The moment Prince William and Kate Middleton announced their engagement has been immortalized ... in wax. Madame Tussauds has unveiled waxwork figures of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, adorned in replicas of the outfits they wore at the announcement in November 2010. **METRO**

Frenzy

"Visitors have been demanding this for ages. We do marketing work and the Duke and Duchess were right at the top of what people wanted to see."
Sculptor Stephen Mansfield

Will and Kate after announcing their engagement. GETTY IMAGES

Priceless

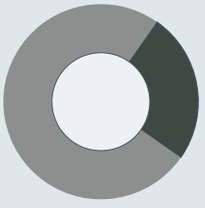
150,000

pounds (about $240,000) is how much it cost to create each figure. A team of sculptors and hair and colour artists took four months to complete the waxworks.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Is the federal budget really 'modest'?



75% YES, IT'LL ONLY LEAVE A BRUISE

25% NO, THE DEEP CUTS HIT IMPORTANT AREAS

Twitter

@Charlton_Lender: 1.75 months of supply in #Regina - only takes 21 days on average to sell a home.

@PierreProtein: Staring down one of the worst drives in this country tomorrow #regina to #calgary.

@SarahBethKeeley: Off to get a much needed hair cut & pampering-then finish the packing for #Regina - #whataweek #Whiskeysaloon here we come to play some ♫♫♫

@KarlitaMae: @MayorFiacco hey mayor Pat, @KellyRipa just called out for you on @LiveKelly . She can't stop saying #Regina . The show is in banff this wk

@PrestonTaylorS: lmfao watching @LiveKelly and #PeterFacinelli didn't believe #Regina was a real place haha

metro
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Richard Crouse got a lot of flack for loving Wanderlust — but he's putting it out there again. Go see it if you haven't yet. HANDOUT

See these movies before they're gone for good

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Long weekend. Ditch the egg hunts and spring cleaning and check out these films you may have missed over the last little while

Richard: Mark, my four-star review of the movie Wanderlust got me the most hate mail I've received since my pan of The Passion of the Christ. I should note that for every hateful, name-calling email I received, I also got one thanking me for recommending the film, but WOW did the people who hated the movie ever take it out on me. Having said that, I'm going to invite more invective and recommend it again. Go see it before it leaves the theatres forever. It's a funny, if quite raunchy, movie.

Mark: I don't know why Wanderlust was so pilloried by the critics and so ignored by the audience. Fear of the '60s, perhaps. But like you, I loved it. Let me put in a few kind words about Salmon Fishing In Yemen. The title might be off-putting but it's a gentle satire and romance with great performances by Ewan Macgregor and Kristin Scott-Thomas. The visuals are crisp as is the dialogue. You could take your granny to this one but it still has a bit of an edge.

RC: You failed to mention the charming Emily Blunt, who to me, was the reason to see Salmon Fishing. On the other end of the scale is Goon, a Canadian hockey movie that rivals Slap Shot for profanity and sheer bravado. It's a mix of romance and hockey, but let's be real here; the only love story anyone cared about in this movie was the love of the game.

Synopsis

- Long weekends are the perfect time to catch up on all those movies you've been meaning to see but haven't. In this special long weekend column, the Reel Guys suggest some of the best movies to check out this weekend before they leave theatres.

MB: Didn't see it because I'm not a hockey fan and after Breakaway and Score I wasn't optimistic. I am a Woody Harrelson fan, though, and Rampart is still playing in theatres. More of a character study than a story, Woody plays the ultimate bad cop as we see his world fall to pieces. Dark, rough, and thoroughly enjoyable.

RC: Wow, your picks are way more heavy-duty than mine. I guess we know who the serious Reel Guy is. My last long weekend pick is Chronicle. It's sci fi, which I usually don't care much for, and it is one of those "found footage" films, which I really don't usually care for, but the story of three friends who gain superpowers is original, funny and smart.

MB: I really enjoyed Chronicle. A wonderful combination of glorious sci-fi set in the world of totally believable and realistic teens. So I'm in total agreement with you on that one. Of course it's no John Carter. But what is?

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Canada helps create RoboCop statue

Plans are moving forward for a Detroit statue of the fictional crime-fighting cyborg RoboCop. The Detroit News reports Wednesday that a RoboCop model is being scanned at a studio in Canada. When the scanning process is completed, artists will create foam pieces that will be shipped to Detroit's Venus Bronze Works, where the parts of the statue will be cast. Jerry Paffendorf, who is involved in the effort, says the statue "will have a physical, as well as conceptual, origin in Detroit." Location and a completion date are uncertain. The 1980s science fiction movie was set in a futuristic and crime-ridden Detroit. The movement for a RoboCop statue started last year after a social networking campaign exploded in support of the project, quickly raising $50,000 to make it happen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Censors in Thailand ban film based on Shakespeare's Macbeth as too divisive

Thriller pays homage to the horror genre

Cabin in the Woods. Director Drew Goddard talks of his love for the masterminds of fright — and things that go bump in the night

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

You think you know the story. As the tagline for the new thriller Cabin in the Woods, it's a pretty accurate tease. It's also about all that can be said without giving away the film's bizarre plot.

"Here's the most insane version of a horror movie we could possibly come up with so that we could show everyone we love this genre," said filmmaker Drew Goddard of the shocker that hits theatres April 13.

"This is not one of those this-is-so-horrific-it's-going-to-give-you-nightmares horror movies. This is the one where you laugh as much as you scream."

Set up as a typical genre yarn, Cabin casts a group of college kids on a weekend getaway to a creepy wilderness cottage. However, once they get there and the zombies rise … well, it grows even crazier. It's a film that's imbued with Sam Raimi and the spirit of Evil Dead — not shocking considering Goddard's idols.

"Certainly the big benchmarks for me were Sam Raimi and John Carpenter as directors — their films are very much in the DNA of Cabin in the Woods," said Goddard, who insists the thriller pays homage to all scary movies.

"I love the journey of the horror film. I love seeing where it's been and I love thinking about where it's going."

Goddard can thank the film's co-writer and television guru Joss Whedon (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Angel) for his directorial debut. One of Whedon's former writers, asked Drew Goddard if there was more to it than just cheap thrills.

"Certainly the questions at the core of Cabin are why do we need horror movies," he says.

STEVE GOW

Cabin in the Woods opens next Friday. HANDOUT

Inside the Cabin

Film is more than just a few scares

Does Cabin in the Woods have a deeper meaning? We

Comedy

American Reunion

Directors. Jon Hurwitz, Jason Schlossberg

Stars. Jason Biggs, Alyson Hannigan, Seann William Scott, Eugene Levy

American Reunion has everything you'd expect from an American Pie flick: sex, nudity and all the awkward conversations with Jim's dad (Levy) one could ever ask for.

The fourth installment of the Pie franchise (not including those classic American Pie Presents films) centers around the all-important thirteenth high school reunion. The whole gang is home for the big event and they're ready to party like it's 1999.

Those in the mood for 90s-comedy nostalgia will enjoy American Reunion—the film exploits every remotely amusing joke from the original film in the hopes that, 13 years later, we'll all still laugh at the punchlines.

While it's fun to see Jim (Biggs), Finch (Eddie Kaye Thomas), Stifler (Scott) and even MILF Guy (John Cho) all together, it was better the first time.

REGAN REID

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., APRIL 6 TO THURS., APRIL 12. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Southland Mall
3025 Gordon Rd., 306-585-7442

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7-9:40
American Reunion (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:20
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-3-6:50
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 12:20-2:20-3:30-5:30-6:40-8:50-10 Sat 12:20-2:30-3:30-5:30-6:40-8:50-10 Sun-Thu 12:20-2:20-3:30-5:30-6:40-8:50-10
The Metropolitan Opera: Manon - Live (STC) Sat 10
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Tue 1-3:40-6:30-9:10 Wed 3:40-6:30-9:10 Thu 1-3:40-6:30-9:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Project X (18A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:40-10:10
The Raid: Redemption (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-7:10-9:40
Titanic 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-4:20-8:30
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 9

Julia Roberts stars in Mirror Mirror HANDOUT

Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7:20-9:50

Galaxy Cinemas Normanview S.C.
420 McCarthy Blvd. N. Unit 26, 306-522-9098

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 1:40-4:50-7:50-10:30 Sat 11:50-2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30 Sun 1:40-4:50-7:50-10:30 Mon-Tue 2-4:40-7:50-10:30 Wed 2-4:40-10:30 Thu 2-4:40-7:50-10:30
American Reunion (18A) No Passes Fri 1:10-4:20-7:40-10:25 No Passes Sat 11:35-2:15-4:55-7:40-10:25 No Passes Sun 1:10-4:20-7:40-10:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:15-4:55-7:40-10:25 No Passes Fri 12:30-3:40-7:10-9:55 No Passes Sat 1:45-4:25-7:10-9:55 No Passes Sun 12:30-3:40-7:10-9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:10-9:55
An American Tail (STC) Sat 11
Andrew Lloyd Webber's Love Never Dies (PG) Wed 7
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri 1:15-4-7:50-10:05 Sat 4:30-7:50-10:05 Sun 1:15-4-7:50-10:05 Mon-Thu 12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:05
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri 12:20-1-3:30-4:10-6:50-7:20-10:05-10:35 Sat 12:10-12:40-3:30-4-6:50-7:20-10:05-10:35 Sun 12:20-1-3:30-4:10-6:50-7:20-10:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 12:10-12:40-3:30-4-6:50-7:20-10:05-10:35
The Metropolitan Opera: Manon - Live (STC) Sat 10
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 1:30-4:40-7:25-10 Sat 11:40-2:15-4:50-7:25-10 Sun 1:30-4:40-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 1:30-4:50-7:25-10
Titanic 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:25-4:25-8:25
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri 12:40-3:50-7:40-10:10 Sat 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10 Sun 12:40-3:50-7:40-10:10 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:10
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri 1:20-4:30-8:10-10:40 Sat 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Sun 1:20-4:30-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40

Kramer IMAX Theatre
2903 Powerhouse Dr., 306-522-4629

Arabia 3D (STC) Fri 3:30 Sat-Sun 3:30-6
Born to Be Wild 3D (G) Mon-Wed 3:30 Thu 3:30-6
Tornado Alley 3D (STC) Fri 1-2:15-4:45 Sat-Sun 1-2:15-4:45-7:15 Mon-Wed 1-2:15-4:45 Thu 1-2:15-4:45-7:15

Golden Mile
3806 Albert St., 306-359-5250

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-3:55-6:35
The Descendants (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4-7-9:30
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:05-7:05-9:50
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 8:20
The Grey (18A) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:40
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:30-9:20
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:45-6:40-9:25
This Means War (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:50-6:55-9:45
Wanderlust (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-3:55-7:10-9:50
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:45-9:35

Regina Public Library Film Theatre
23 11 12th Ave., 306-777-6104

Albert Nobbs (STC) Thu 9
The Artist (G) Thu 7
Into the Abyss (PG) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
We Need to Talk About Kevin (14A) Fri 9 Sat 7 Sun 9
Wednesday Plus (STC) Wed 7

Gotye GETTY IMAGES

Gotye introduces us to more people he used to know on his new album

Man of the hour. Belgian-Australian singer talks about his eclectic musical style and what inspires him

HEIDI PATALANO
scene@metronews.ca

Gotye isn't terribly worried about being upstaged by a viral YouTube cover of his international hit, Somebody That I Used To Know. Even though the video, in which five people pluck out his song on one shared guitar, was at one time more famous than his own.

"On some level it makes me feel like maybe the song doesn't really belong to me anymore," says the singer born Wouter De Backer.

"I've just written this song that has an energy all of its own and it's almost unconnected from me as an artist, producer or singer even, which is kind of cool. I think it's a really interesting energy to be related to."

Whether or not the song still "belongs" to Gotye (it's pronounced gaut-tee-yay, by the way), he has earned heaps of praise for his latest album, Making Mirrors, which features a diverse range of sounds — everything from that acousticky folk of Somebody to feel-good pop to Motown to hints of dubstep.

It's all over the place, but the Belgian-Australian singer assures us that there is a method to his schizophrenic madness.

"I really like diverse records and I'm a big fan of bands like Ween who bring a lot of different strands together and just explode outwards in lots of different directions in one album, but I think there's a thread there that holds it together," De Backer says.

"I don't know if coming from Australia is part of it, but I think I sometimes just have a whimsical, idiosyncratic range of tastes in music and I try to find a way to make sense of them all and find a way to make them all live together. I may or may not have succeeded with that on some instances on the record."

Q & A with Gotye

- **So who is that "somebody" that you used to know?** "I've talked to a few different ex-girlfriends in the last year since the song came out, but it's not written about one particular relationship."
- **That's what everyone says.** "But it's true! I look at different lines in the lyrics and I can see specific moments or people in certain lines and then there are other lines in the lyrics that I kind of go, 'well, that's just fiction.'

Why women love Game of Thrones

Maisie Williams plays Arya Stark, one of the show's strongest female characters. CONTRIBUTED

Fantasy. It's bloody, violent and male-dominated. So why does this show have so many female fans?

MICHELLE CASTILLO
scene@metronews.ca

At first glance, the Seven Kingdoms of Westeros (and the Wildlings and Others that live past the northern border) are dominated by a male society. Daughters are wedded off for political advantage, and wives and betrothed who disobey their husbands are slapped across the face.

Despite what appears to be a misogynistic message, HBO's critically acclaimed series Game of Thrones has managed to appeal a large base of female fans. From bloggers analyzing women's hatred toward the more conniving female characters to women-run forums dedicated to what female characters they can't wait to see next, the fairer sex is as enamored with the world that George R. R. Martin created as their male counterparts.

Control

"(The women) have a lot of control over their actions, more than typical women in fantasy stories."
Diya Chaco
Fan of the series

"I could see how men would be more attracted to it. It's a lot of sex and violence – and there's a lot of boobs," Rosanne Stern said. "(The episodes) were based off the time period they were written about. But, a lot of the girls who have seen it – after they (got over that) there was a lot of sex and violence – we're drawn in as well."

Stern, a 26-year-old English student, faithfully watches the HBO series with her boyfriend. She had previously read the series before the show came out. Despite the fact that she believes that it is "one of the most well-written series I've come across in a while," Stern rarely found other female fans that shared her passion for the series before the TV show came out. Now, she's noticing that men and women alike reading the books and catching up with the A Song of Fire and Ice saga.

Part of what Stern feels draws women to the series is the strong female characters like Daenerys, the Dothroki princess from House Targaryen, and Brienne of Tarth, a warrior who will be featured on the second season of the show.

Diya Chaco, another female fan of the series, agrees. "You have these women set in this time where there are knights and yes they are princesses, but none of them act like a princess," she explained.

Chaco was first introduced to the series when her mother bought the first book, A Song of Ice and Fire, in an airport and gave it to her back in 1999. "It was way too early for me to read it," the 25-year-old editorial producer said, laughing.

When Chaco heard HBO was making a show, she immediately re-bought the books that she had lost during Hurricane Katrina and read them over again. She was drawn in by the fantasy series because it didn't conform to typical tropes.

"I know that there are graphic sex scenes in the book, and to see those graphic sex scenes on the screen is a bit shocking, but it's HBO," Chaco explained.

At the end, what draws most women to the show is the series' universal appeal of a nail-biting plot where no person is safe and strong characters, regardless of their gender.

Good God, Finkleman is bringing back George

Keeps trying

Why Finkleman likes playing George Findlay:

- "(He has an) ability to slide out of difficult situations he has created because of his own self-interest ... Ralph Kramden was the same thing on The Honeymooners ... we watch him reach for something he never can quite get."

There's a good reason why Ken Finkleman changed the title of his continuing television series from Good Dog to Good God.

"It's a different show completely," said the creator, writer and star of the new series that premieres April 9th on The Movie Network. Harkening back to his popular '90s hit The Newsroom, Good God this time posits his perpetual character George Findlay as head of a right-wing TV news network — quite a switch from last year's self-reflective sitcom.

But once again, Finkleman gets to explore his interminable George character through another setting. Whether it's in The Newsroom or Good God, it's an opportunity that keeps its creator evolving – even if the character doesn't.

"George learns nothing. So what's interesting about him I think is we watch his inability to learn," explained Finkleman — an anti-establishment writer if showbiz ever saw one. "There's no arc, it's a comedy — it's silly."

STEVE GOW/METRO

The setting may change, but Ken Finkleman's George Findlay never does.
CONTRIBUTED

Rachel Dratch walks into a bar ... and comes out with a book

The book has Dratch feeling "a little exposed." GETTY IMAGES

Tales to tell. From her Debbie Downer days on SNL to her unexpected life as a single mom

HEIDI PATALANO
scene@metronews.ca

You may know Rachel Dratch as Debbie Downer from her stint on Saturday Night Live or for her cameos on 30 Rock, but the 46-year-old comedian has more stories to tell than the standard ex-SNL-er's behind-the-scenes yarns.

"It all started because I wasn't getting acting jobs, basically," Dratch says dryly when asked about how she began to write her memoir, Girl Walks Into a Bar. The actress, having parted with SNL in 2006 after seven years, had first decided to write a book about her dating experiences in New York City, having been courted by all manner of strange men — including one particular gem who had an interest in consuming horse meat.

But then something unexpected happened.

"There was this crazy twist that happened in my life and I thought maybe I should start writing about this," she says. Dratch, at 43 years old, after having giving up on the idea of being married with kids someday, unexpectedly got pregnant and decided to make that "midlife miracle," as she calls it, the centrepiece of her book.

"The whole thing about not having kids is those baby showers. I think so many women feel the way that I talk about in the book — I think there's lots of disappointment in these women's hearts."

While Dratch does explore some of these sensitive issues, she's not short on the dish when it comes to her own love life and her time on SNL, even if she is loath to admit that her unique perspective on that legendary TV show is a fascinating component of the book.

"To me, so many people have described their experience there," she says. "When I was there, it was pretty supportive ... It's such highs and such lows there. Only people that have been there understand what it's like to get your scene cut at 11 p.m. before you're going on. But then on the flip side, it's the pinnacle of sketch comedy."

TV Picks

Scandal begins in high places

A new series by Grey's Anatomy producer Shonda Rhimes debuts Thursday. Scandal stars Kerry Washington as a new recruit at a crisis management firm who is tasked with handling an accusation levelled against the president — on her first day. (Citytv)

Kerry Washington stars in the new show Scandal. HANDOUT

Titanic's Canadian connections

With the 100th anniversary of the Titanic's sinking just around the corner, CBC-TV is screening a two-hour Doc Zone documentary on Thursday night on Canadian connections to the disaster. Of the more than 2,200 passengers and crew on the ship, about 130 were en route to Canada.

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Justin Timberlake to be officially off the market?

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel are reportedly looking to tie the knot as soon as this summer, according to People magazine.

"Justin and Jessica are planning a big (summer) wedding," a source says of the plans. "Jessica initially wanted a smaller, more intimate wedding, but Justin from the beginning wanted a big wedding and that's what they have decided on."

He also apparently wants to be in fantastic shape for the big day.

"Justin has put on a few pounds recently after working out a lot for a movie role, but now with the summer in sight he's back in the gym and working out harder than ever," the source adds. "He's seen the effort Jessica puts in order to stay fit and looking healthy and he doesn't want to go the other way. She's inspired him to get fit again."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

SNL stars look to leave show

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Two sources have told Us Weekly that several of the best, more recognizable Saturday Night Live players are ready to move on.

"Kristen Wiig, Andy Samberg and Jason Sudeikis are all leaving after the end of the season," says one insider.

"It will be a huge blow to the show. Without Andy's video shorts and Kristen saving every skit, they'll need help!"

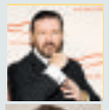
A rep for both Wiig, 38, and Sudeikis, 36, deny the rumor, telling Us, "No decisions are made until the season is over."

But another pal says the timing is right.

"Kristen was talking about leaving a while ago. With her movie success, it's no surprise."

It's time, but it's too bad — they (and the occasional crazy guest host, a la Lindsay Lohan) made the show worth watching this season. Although now that we think about it, that's a pretty sad highlight reel.

Twitter



@rickygervais
Saying "Atheism is a belief system", is like saying "not going skiing, is a hobby."

@GarryShandling
OK, so I misunderstood what planking was at first. Big deal.

@CraigyFerg
Ugh, I feel like Burt Reynolds - woke up covered in hair. My giant German Shepherd slept on top of my bed last night. So did my dog.

@SethMacFarlane
"I'M STANDING ON THE FRONT OF A BOAT!" --Titanic (first draft)

William and Kate not set to make big announcement

Despite near-constant rumors of a baby on the way, Prince William and Kate Middleton are definitely not making any big announcements soon, a source assures Us Weekly.

"Kate is not pregnant or about to make a pregnancy announcement," the source says.

There are plenty of reasons for the royal couple to celebrate, as their first anniversary is coming up.

Kate Middleton and Prince William

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thebodyshop.com

- ***Palmers, Cocoa Butter Formula, $8***

palmers.com

- ***Laura Mercier, Fresh Fig Body Butter, $35***

lauramercier.com

ROMINA MCGUINNESS

On the Web

Gray hair is in fashion but many working women aren't ready to give up the dye.

Jenna opens the J.Crew door: 'We don't want to be exclusive'

Brand expand. The U.S. brand, with the massive cult following and Michelle Obama endorsement, finally pushes its unique take on high and low global

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News in London

President and executive creative director of J.Crew, Jenna Lyons.

For years, J.Crew was that American company that produced the chic clothes that you coveted but frustratingly couldn't buy. Through Michelle Obama, the rest of the world was introduced to the brand's colourful, up-beat cardigans and pencil skirts, clothes that sit just slightly to the left of classic — meaning, trend-conscious enough without the risk of being out of style six months later. And then there's Jenna Lyons, the president and executive creative director of J.Crew, whose fashion celebrity seems to grow by the day. Her off-beat personal style and knack for seamlessly mixing high and low has become inextricably linked with the brand, not to mention a full-blown fashion blogger obsession.

We talk to Lyons about the company's recent decision to go global (they now ship to 107 countries) after only being available in the U.S. for nearly 30 years.

What makes now the right time to expand internationally?

We were finding that a lot of customers were calling our New York store and asking for things to be shipped overseas. But we had to get our ducks in a row first. We had the U.S. expansion that we were working on and we were in the process of launching a few really big projects that we needed to have all hands on deck for first. We wanted to do it right.

How do you think J.Crew's American sensibility will translate to a global audience?

Some brands have a very specific look. But we expect you to put your own quirk on it. We're not trying to present it as only one way of dressing or looking. I love it when we shoot (for our catalogs) in other places. It's great to see what our (staff) come back with. For example, someone will come back with this great Guatemalan piece worn with chinos and loafers. And I can't wait to see the same thing happen with our shoppers in Russia. Or to see what someone in China might do.

The brand is much more popular with fashion insiders than it was years ago. For example, Manolo Blahnik collaborated with you on your a/w '12 show and you're now selling Comme des Garçons Play. What led to the change?

I think Mickey Drexler (chairman and CEO) has allowed us to step out of the box of what we've done before. We've really tried to develop a clear visual over the last four or five years that's a tad bit more fashion. Working with the CFDA has also been a big help, getting more intimately acquainted with the designers and people like Diane von Furstenberg and Anna Wintour. People began to have a different trust level with us. People (in the fashion industry) began to view us as being on the inside rather than the outside.

How are you managing to please both your fans who love high fashion and the ones who love the affordable classics?

It's a challenge to mix aspiration with approachability. It's about striking that balance between high and low; it's a part of our DNA. We don't consider ourselves a luxury brand and we don't consider ourselves a high-street brand. We have a wide range of customers.

We're not positioning ourselves as a luxury brand, we're offering you a cohesive way to shop. We don't want to be exclusive, we want people to feel like they can have a piece of the brand. We want to show that you can make anything cool.

Her must-haves. Five things Jenna Lyons will live in this spring

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$495, JCREW.COM

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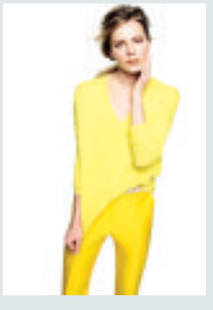
$275, JCREW.COM



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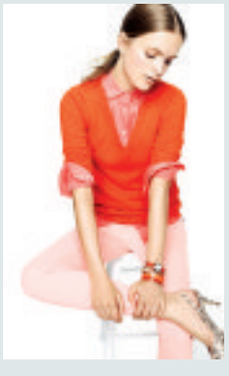
$258, JCREW.COM

NEON BOY SHIRT

$70, JCREW.COM



Keep small spaces neutral and add drama on focal points like a fireplace. BENJAMINMOORE.CA

Be careful with some colours

Painting an entire small space any of the three primary colours (apple red, sunflower yellow or cobalt blue) would be a big mistake.

- **Three primary colours.** These shades are the truest form of colour. But they can affect our visual and mental states if we are exposed to them for too long a time.
- **Sunflower yellow.** The true form of yellow is a irritant to the eye (but it's great for powder rooms and hallways).
- **Cobalt blue.** This colour generally lacks personality (but use it to add a punch of colour inside a closet or to paint around cabinetry in a kitchen).
- **Apple red.** This colour creates blood flow and energy (good only for dining rooms).
- **How to use these colours.** If you like yellow, red or blue, make sure they are a faded-down, murky version to help soften the intensity.

Small space paint primer

Decor ideas. Painting a tiny abode? Here's a few tricks to make it feel larger

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

If you are thinking about freshening up your space this spring, there is no better return on your dollar and time then to paint it a new colour.

If you are in a small space then here are some designer secrets that will make it feel larger than it actually is.

Be consistent

To make the overall space feel as large as possible, paint it one colour.

That colour should be a good neutral that reflects your style in many rooms. Neutrals don't have to be boring; khaki green, blue greys, camel tans and putty creams are all updated neutrals that give personality to a space.

If you really want more than one colour, choose similar tonal values in the different colours. This will create an even flow of tones throughout the space, making it feel bigger.

Match your trims

If your five-inch baseboards and four-inch crown mouldings are painted the same colour as your walls, you will visually gain nine inches of height in the room.

This little trick will make your space feel taller and loftier.

Interior doors, radiators, mantels and stairs become less interruptive when painted the same colour as the rest of the space.

Paint trims with a sheen-finished paint for durability and to allow them to stand out.

Keep ceilings white

I have always subscribed to the classic decorator rule that ceilings should be painted a dull white.

Your ceiling is the largest, uninterrupted surface in a room. Keeping it bright helps natural light bounce into the room and makes ceilings appear taller.

A lot of new small places offer exceptionally high ceilings, which often gives the too-tall "cracker-jack box" effect to the room.

In that case paint the ceilings the same as the walls to help bring them down, which inevitably helps visually widen the room.

Paint a punch

In order to add jazz to a small space it's always nice to highlight a focal point with a splash of paint.

An old mantel painted high-gloss navy blue, a multi-mulliened window painted black, a centrally-located interior door painted citron green are all simple ways to add a punch of colour to your space without chopping it up.

Tip

"Your ceiling is the largest, uninterrupted surface in a room. Keeping it bright helps natural light bounce into the room and makes ceilings appear taller."

Charles the butler. Washing machines aren't as simple as they look, but you can master them

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

Dear Charles the butler,
What washing machine would you recommend for an average house of four people?
What is your opinion on front-loader machines versus traditional washing machines? I would really appreciate your advice.
Thank you so much.

Hello,

I am really happy to help where I can, and thank you for keeping your questions coming! When it comes to making a decision about appliances, brand isn't everything. There are several other factors to consider before you buy a new washing machine.

1. Family need: Does your household produce delicate laundry items or are you just washing a bunch of jeans and T-shirts?

2. What is your budget?

3. Do you do laundry once a week or every day?

4. Do you care about the settings or do you just want a good basic wash?

5. If you go with a front loader, is it located somewhere in the house that you can leave the front door open while it dries out? This is very important to avoid mildew.

6. How environmentally concerned are you? Remember a top-loading machine can use up to 40 gallons of water versus a front loader that can use as little as a third that amount of water.

Although I love front-loading machines, there is still an argument for top loaders based on how you answer the above questions. Good luck!

HAVE A QUESTION? EMAIL ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

There's actually a lot to consider when you buy a new washing machine. ISTOCK

Reach for the matzo meal this Passover for delicious, modern bites

Passover Sliders with Caramelized Onions. Try these tasty bunless burgers for a twist on traditional ingredients

During Passover, much of the culinary focus is on the Seder, the celebratory meal that commemorates the Jewish liberation and exodus from Egypt.

But the special dietary restrictions that go with the holiday last at least a week, which can challenge even the most creative of cooks to come up with interesting meals.

During the week of Passover, Jews are supposed to adhere to dietary restrictions intended to remind them that their ancestors were in such a hurry to get out of Egypt that they didn't even wait for their bread to rise, instead taking matzos, the unleavened flatbreads that are still eaten today.

This is why many Jews avoid foods made with wheat, barley, rye, spelt or oats that have been mixed with water and allowed to stand in the open air for more than 18 minutes — the amount of time it takes for natural leavening to begin.

Which is to say, there's a lot of matzo sold during Passover.

For an easy meal during this holiday, try these Passover sliders. The bunless burgers are dipped in beaten eggs, coated with seasoned matzo meal and fried in olive oil, Passover margarine or, for the absolute best flavour, chicken or duck fat.

Ingredients

- 625 g (1 1/4 lb) lean ground beef
- 5 ml (1 tsp) onion powder
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) matzo meal
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) freshly ground black pepper
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) kosher chicken fat, duck fat or extra virgin olive oil

Caramelized Onions:

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) kosher salt

Passover Sliders with Caramelized Onions

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1. Caramelized onions: In saucepan heat oil over medium heat and cook onion and salt, stirring 15 minutes or until soft and golden. Remove from heat and set aside.

2. In bowl, mix ground beef and onion powder. Form beef mixture into 8 equal 5-x-2-cm (2-x-3/4-inch) patties. Transfer to a plate and set aside.

3. In a wide, shallow bowl, mix together matzo meal, salt and pepper. Dip each beef patty into beaten eggs, turning to coat, then transfer to dish with matzo meal. Turn gently to coat evenly; return to plate.

4. In skillet, heat fat over medium-high heat and fry patties, turning once, 3 mins. per side or until desired doneness until crusty and golden brown. Serve topped with caramelized onions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

Cookbook of the Week

Fresh & Easy Kosher Cooking

From Leah Schapira, the founder of cookkosher.com, a rapidly growing online kosher recipe exchange, comes Fresh & Easy Kosher Cooking.

The book contains more than 170 easy-to-make recipes, full-colour photos, side dish pairing suggestions, tips for food preparation and storage as well as a comprehensive index.

Among the recipes are modern eats such as Crispy Oven-Baked Chicken and Deep-Dish Chocolate Chip Pies as well as traditional favourites like Egg and Liver Tower, Four-Section Challah Rolls and Parve Polish Cholent. METRO

Matzo Brei Shepherd's Pie puts Seder leftovers to use

1. Coat a 20-x-20-cm (8-x-8-inch) glass baking dish with cooking spray; set aside.

2. In a large skillet heat oil over medium-high heat; add onion and sauté 3 to 5 minutes or until softened and translucent. Add mushrooms and cook for 5 minutes or until they begin to brown. Add carrots and thyme, cook, stirring often, for 7 minutes.

3. Stir in matzo meal and cook, stirring constantly, for 2 minutes. Add wine and cook, stirring constantly and scraping up any browned bits on the bottom of the pan, for 2 minutes.

4. Stir in brisket and broth; cook, stirring occasionally, 3 to 5 minutes or until mixture is simmering and has thickened slightly. Season with salt and pepper. Remove from heat and transfer mixture to prepared baking dish.

5. Topping: Crumble matzos into a large colander placed over a bowl to catch crumbs, then hold colander under running cold water for 15 to 20 seconds or until matzos are moist and softened, but not completely disintegrated. Transfer to bowl with crumbs. Add eggs and salt and mix gently with a fork.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

6. Spread matzo mixture in an even layer over top of brisket mixture, then sprinkle with pepper. Bake in 190 C (375 F) oven until matzo brei topping is golden and brisket filling is bubbling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

Reader's note

Not all Passover traditions are the same, so the dishes on this page may not meet dietary requirements or restrictions. METRO

Ingredients

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 250 ml (1 cup) diced onion
- 285 g (10 oz) cremini mushrooms, quartered
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) diced carrots
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dried thyme leaves
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) matzo meal
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) dry red wine
- 750 ml (3 cups) diced cooked brisket
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) beef broth
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Topping:

- 4 matzos
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Passover-Inspired Root Veggie Casserole. Hearty dish that adds colour

1. Coat casserole dish with cooking spray.

2. In skillet heat 15 mL (1 tbsp) of oil over medium-high; add onions and garlic and sauté for 10 minutes or until soft. Scrape into large bowl.

3. Add sweet potatoes, carrots, beets, celeriac, applesauce, thyme, savoury, tarragon, lemon and orange rinds. Season with salt and pepper; toss to coat. Spoon into casserole dish.

4. In small bowl, combine crushed matzos with remaining 45 ml (3 tbsp) of olive oil and coriander. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle over vegetable mix. Bake in 190 C (375 F) 1 hr or until vegetables are tender when pierced with fork. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients

- 60 ml (4 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 each red onions, sliced; cloves garlic, chopped; sweet potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 500 g (1 lb) each carrots, cut into 2.5-cm (1-inch) pieces; beets, peeled and cut into wedges; celeriac, peeled and cubed
- 250 ml (1 cup) unsweetened applesauce
- 7 mL (1 1/2 tsp) finely grated lemon rind
- 10 mL (2 tsp) finely grated orange rind
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) each chopped fresh thyme and savoury
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh tarragon
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 5 matzos, crushed
- 2 m l (1/2 tsp) ground coriander

Howard has eyes on gold after beating Swedes, Scots

Curling. Unbeaten skip locks up top spot at world men's curling championship

It was the toughest day on the schedule for Canada's Glenn Howard at the world men's curling championship.

The unbeaten Ontario skip didn't let up Wednesday against the formidable one-two punch of Sweden's Niklas Edin and Scotland's Tom Brewster, handing both playoff contenders the same fate as every other opponent he's faced so far.

Along the way, Howard locked up the No. 1 seed and a berth in the Page 1-versus-2 playoff while showing the rest of the field why he's the clear favourite to win a world title for a fourth time.

"Every team that comes out here, we've got to play like they're the biggest ones here and that's what we do," Howard said.

Canada beat Edin 10-6 in the afternoon before topping Brewster 7-5 in the evening at St. Jakobshalle.

Howard showed again he has no trouble adjusting to the style of his opponent. He was up for a rollicking skins-style shootout against the aggressive Swedes, then used a steady, clinical style against the efficient Scots.

"Any team out here can beat us," Howard said. "I think they know that and they just have to get us on a bad day or (they're) on a good day. I don't think 9-0 intimidates them that much.

"They've seen that we didn't dominate out here. We're outplaying (teams) a little bit. But we're still winning on last shot a lot of times."

Howard beat Scotland with a raise takeout on his final throw. After shaking hands, he spun around to wave to the contingent of flag-waving friends and family in the far reaches of the 9,000-seat venue , which was about one-quarter full.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I just want to win this and it doesn't matter to me if we go undefeated or not."
Canada's Glenn Howard

Canada's skip Glenn Howard, centre, Brent Laing talk during their match against Sweden Wednesday in Basel, Switzerland. ENNIO LEANZA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Will Stamkos' season warrant MVP nod?

Steven Stamkos, centre, celebrates a goal against the Washington Capitals with teammate Martin St. Louis on Monday. MIKE CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It has been a spectacular season for Steven Stamkos, even if the Tampa Bay Lightning won't be in the NHL playoffs.

Despite his team's struggles and goal-scoring on a whole being down around the NHL, the 22-year-old Stamkos is on the verge of becoming only the second player in the new millennium to score 60 goals in a season.

He had 58 with only three games left in the regular season, 10 more than his closest competitor, Evgeni Malkin of the Pittsburgh Penguins. Stamkos could reach the magic number Wednesday in Montreal, Thursday in his hometown of Toronto or in the Lightning's season finale Saturday in Winnipeg.

"He's definitely our MVP and I hope he wins one of those trophies," said Stamkos's linemate Martin St. Louis, who was league MVP in 2004. "He deserves it.

"When you're a team on the outside looking in it's tough to win those awards, but to me it's an MVP season. It's not just the goals, but the timely goals. The big goals."

Stamkos has all but locked up his second Rocket Richard Trophy as the league goal-scoring leader. He shared one with Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby in 2009-10, when each had 51.

He can become the first player to hit 60 since Alexander Ovechkin scored 65 goals for Washington in 2007-08.

Also, the Markham, Ont. native has already passed his career high of 95 points and can become the second player this season to reach 100 after Malkin, who has been equally brilliant and is Stamkos's main competition to take the Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player.

"You need to be put in the right situation," he said. "Playing with a guy like Marty, he's a great playmaker, and Teddy Purcell's having a career year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

League close to selling Hornets

Commissioner David Stern says the NBA is close to a deal to keep the Hornets in New Orleans with a favourable lease, important capital improvements, intense tax benefits and a new television deal.

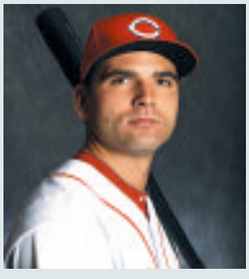
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Votto signs long-term deal

Canadian slugger Joey Votto agreed to a 12-year deal worth more than $200 million US with the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday. It's the longest guaranteed contract in major-league history.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NHL

Schneider gets nod for start

The Vancouver Canucks will have Cory Schneider in goal for their final road game of the regular season after Roberto Luongo was pulled during Vancouver's 5-4 victory over the Anaheim Ducks Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

UFC

"Their first two fights were absolute wars and this one promises to be just as thrilling."

UFC president Dana White on Canadian lightweight Sam Stout's June 22 fight against Spencer Fisher in Atlantic City, N.J.

4 SPORTS

NFL

Judge rejects Reebok's appeal over Tebow jerseys sales

A judge rejected Reebok's bid to overturn his ban on its sale of Tim Tebow New York Jets jerseys Wednesday, saying the public can wait a few weeks for Nike Tebow jerseys to show up in stores. U.S. District Judge Kevin Castel said Nike Inc. had shown a "probability of success" in its quest to permanently halt Reebok sales of Tebow jerseys and T-shirts during a daylong hearing that follows the filing of a lawsuit last week. Castel temporarily blocked Reebok from selling 6,000 Tebow-Jets jerseys and 25,000 T-shirts a week ago. Reebok International Ltd. argued for the ban to be lifted Wednesday, saying it had found evidence that it was within its rights to create the jerseys and T-shirts even though its agreement with the National Football League Players Inc. to use players' names and numbers had expired at the end of February.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

At least one former Habs great is out of the running for the Canadiens' vacant GM position. Vincent Damphousse withdrew from consideration on Wednesday. Scan the code to find out who else could be the new head of Montreal's front office.

McIlroy shows no lead is safe at Masters

PGA. Nearly 40 per cent of the Masters have been won by eight players

The seven shots Rory McIlroy took on the 10th hole last year at the Masters remain a blur.

So was the rest of his final round at Augusta National, where the 22-year-old from Northern Ireland made the wrong kind of history. He started with a four-shot lead. He finished 10 shots behind after an 80, the highest closing round by a 54-hole leader in 56 years.

If nothing else, it was a reminder how tenuous a lead can be in the final round.

Especially at the Masters.

"It's a course that makes you really nervous," Australian golfer Geoff Ogilvy said.

There is an art to playing Augusta, For those seeking their first green jacket, let alone their first major, finishing it off can be a challenge.

Greg Norman lost a record six-shot lead in 1996. Ed Sneed had a five-shot lead in 1979, and was still three shots clear with three holes remaining when he made three straight bogeys and lost in a playoff. Ken Venturi was on the verge of becoming the only amateur to win the Masters in 1956 when he blew a four-shot lead. Like McIlroy, he shot an 80.

Tough task

"If you were to carry a decent lead into Sunday, you'd need a steel-trap mind to survive."

Three-time Masters winner Nick Faldo on the difficulties of protecting a lead in the final round.

McIlroy's blown lead is enough of a memory going into the Masters. Adding to the emphasis is a bad habit of 54-hole leaders failing to win this year on the PGA Tour.

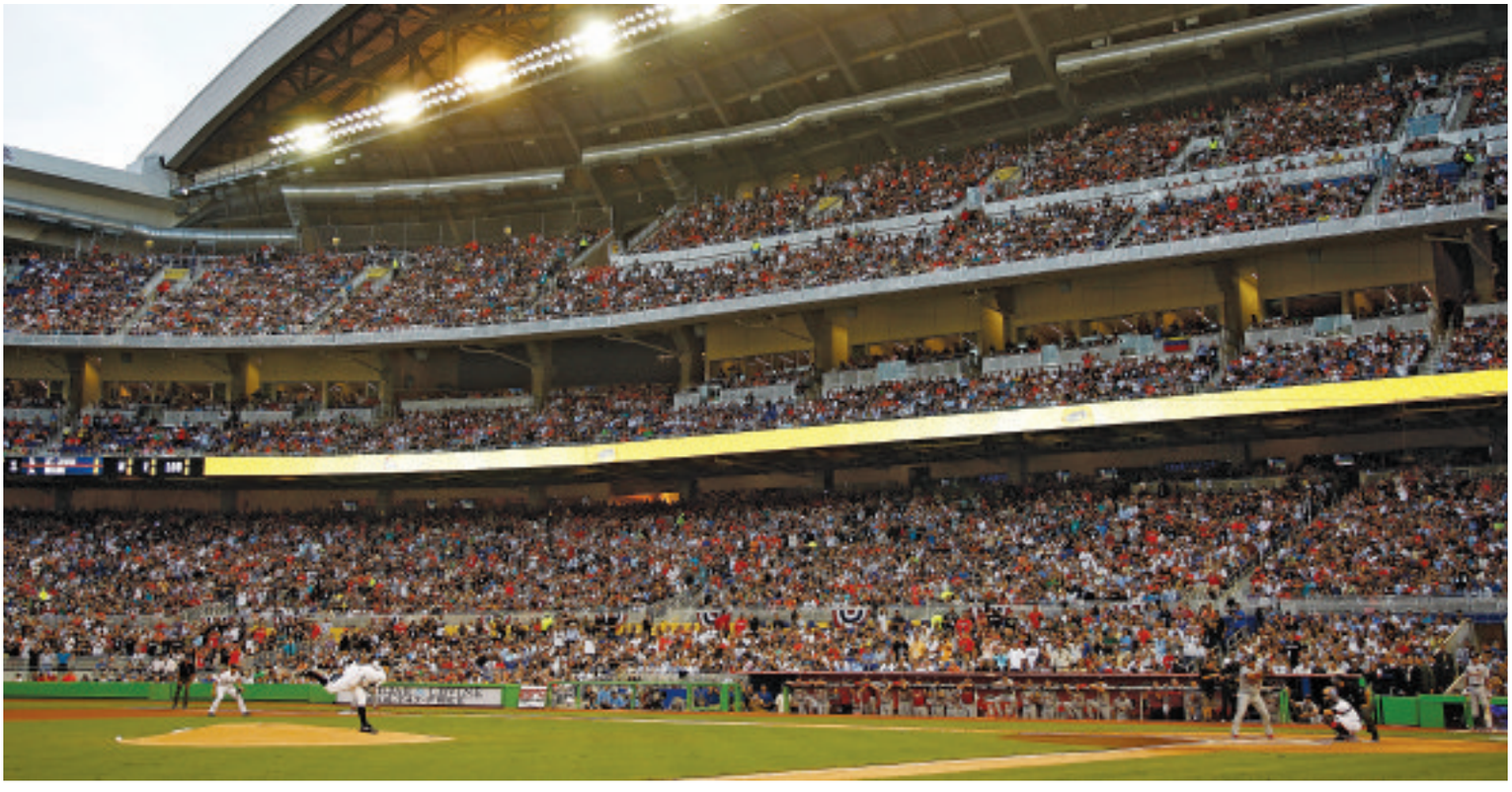
In 14 stroke-play events on the PGA Tour, only five players have gone on to win with at least a share of the third-round lead. With that kind of history, protecting a lead is not easy.

"Not even close to easy, as we've seen," Nick Faldo said.

He should know. Faldo is the only player with multiple Masters wins who has never had the lead going into the last day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gerry McIlroy, Rory McIlroy and Stewart Cink walk in front of the clubhouse during the Par 3 Contest prior to the start of the 2012 Masters at Augusta National Golf Club on Wednesday. ANDREW REDINGTON/GETTY IMAGES



World Series champs spoil opening day party in Marlins' new digs

Miami's Josh Johnson makes the first pitch of the major-league season to Rafael Furcal of St. Louis during Opening Day at Marlins Park on Wednesday. Kyle Lohse didn't allow a hit until the seventh inning and pitched into the eighth to help the World Series champion Cardinals spoil the Marlins' debut in their new ballpark, 4-1. MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Juggling act continues for Jays' Farrell in Year 2

John Farrell had a steep learning curve in his first year as a big-league manager after four seasons as a pitching coach with the Boston Red Sox.

It took some time for the Blue Jays manager to get used to the rigours of his new job with a different organization, coaching staff and players. Farrell used a more aggressive approach on the basepaths but the Jays' pitching was inconsistent and the team finished fourth in the American League East with a .500 record.

Expectations will be higher in 2012 for the Blue Jays, who open the season Thursday in Cleveland, and Farrell said he's ready to apply what he learned last year to help his team improve.

"When to push, when to back off, how to put guys in the best position for success," he said in a recent interview. "You always look for those opportunities to make the most of a player's given skill set. But our team has changed. Our roster has clearly changed.

"We've got more flexibility, we've got I think a deeper roster."

His on-field mission is simple — get his team into contention in what is arguably the toughest division in baseball.

Toronto's bullpen is deeper this year and Ricky Romero and Brandon Morrow should offer a solid 1-2 punch at the front end of the rotation. There are question marks after that though.

Brett Cecil is coming off a poor season — he was demoted to double-A on Tuesday — Dustin McGowan has injury issues and Henderson Alvarez and Kyle Drabek are unproven youngsters. The relievers did a nice job over the first two months of last season before the extra work caught up to them.

One of Farrell's priorities this spring was to instill a mindset among his starters on the importance of going deeper into games.

"We had too many of those games where it was the fifth inning and we're already going to the bullpen," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays manager John Farrell talks with the media on Wednesday in Cleveland. AMY SANCETTA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

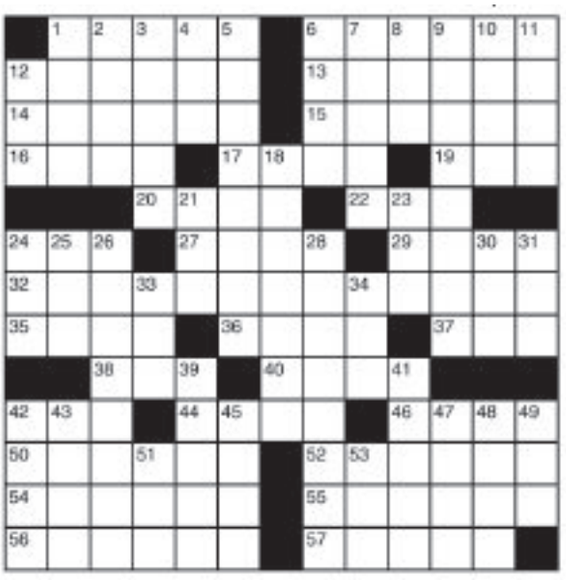
Crossword

Across

1 Sumatran ape
6 Van Gogh painting
12 Open declaration
13 El — (place of wealth)
14 Fidel's capital
15 Gave temporarily
16 Brewery creations
17 "— of Our Lives"
19 Modern-day evidence
20 Greet
22 Mai —
24 Witness
27 Cabin makeup
29 Night light
32 Half a bicycle-shop duo
35 "The best- — schemes ..."
36 Busy as —
37 La-la lead-in
38 Comic Costello
40 Take ten
42 Not dis?
44 In apple-pie order
46 Parks or Bonheur
50 Ailing
52 Hurt
54 Ear affliction
55 Votes into office
56 Washington group
57 Staff

Down

1 Squashed circle
2 Wander
3 Inundated
4 A Bobbsey twin
5 Iris' cousin
6 One way to stand by
7 Perch
8 401(k) alternative
9 Chargers' home
10 Paradise
11 Pop
12 "Eureka!"
18 Math course
21 Everything
23 Blackbird
24 Scale member
25 Mound stat
26 Plot-contrived villain
28 Fragrant flower
30 Kin of 12-Down
31 To the — degree
33 Bachelor's last words
34 — judicata
39 Dark
41 Took a whack at
42 Pairs
43 Initial stake
45 Otherwise
47 Previously
48 Soundstages
49 Billboards
51 Greek vowel
53 Will Smith biopic



Sudoku

2			9		5			3
	8		6		2		4	
		9				7		
		2	4		3	5		
8								9
		5	1		8	3		
		4				8		
	6		5		9		3	
1			2		7			4

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	5	8	9	2	6	4	1	7
9	4	1	8	3	7	6	2	5
6	2	7	4	5	1	8	3	9
8	6	5	2	9	3	7	4	1
7	3	4	1	8	5	9	6	2
2	1	9	6	7	4	5	8	3
4	7	6	3	1	9	2	5	8
5	8	3	7	4	2	1	9	6
1	9	2	5	6	8	3	7	4

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

OUTZ XUFJWS FUS NGQQZP CWUT SVZ VEFV-BIGOO BUJQSWX BIJN CUW QUS NZEQF BJISJWZP ZQUJFV.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU FAITHFULLY CLEAN YOUR EARS, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD CALL THAT GOOD AURAL HYGIENE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals H

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. There can be no half measures for you today. You know what you want and you know how to get it.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Identify your priorities and resist the urge to start something new, even if it makes you extra money.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Flex your muscles and remind those you live and work with that you are not the sort who is easily beaten. They'll back off.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. You'll discover something interesting about a friend today that they might prefer you and the world did not know. Be tactful. Try not to embarrass them.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. People like to think that they know best, but best for one individual is not necessarily best for another. Keep that in mind today.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You can change something about your life that you no longer enjoy. Channel the time you save into more productive activities.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Follow your instincts and take a few chances today. You will get many more cheers than boos.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You may be tempted to let someone get away with comments about you that are clearly untrue, maybe even defamatory. Don't.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. If there is something you want, you will find a way to get it, even if it means treading on a few toes and bruising a few egos.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Family members are in the driving seat at the moment so you might as well sit back and enjoy the ride.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Everyone will do as you tell them today. There will be no shortage of people who want you to act for their benefit. Ignore them.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. You'll get the chance to show what you are made of today and to show that you have what it takes. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption Contest

"Duck... duck... duck... duck... GOOSE!"
CHARMANDER

MARTIN MEISSNER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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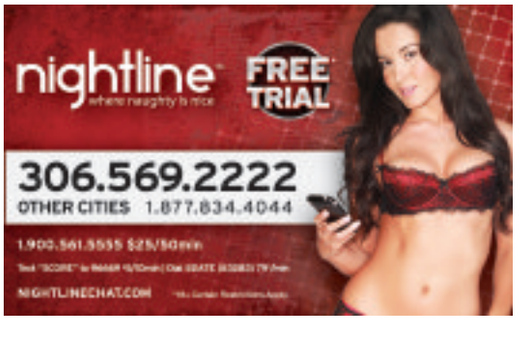

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